Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A container assembly comprising a paint container and a cover, wherein the container has a peripheral wall defining a rim enclosing an opening at one end thereof, and wherein the cover is provided for releasably closing the opening, the assembly being provided with at least one locking member that is hingeable between an unlocked position and a locked position, the at least one locking member having a locking member engagement feature which engages with a corresponding engagement feature on the assembly in the locked position to lock the cover to the container, in which the locking member passes over the rim of the container or a rim of the cover as the locking member hinges between the unlocked and locked positions such that the locking member locks onto the container rim.

2. (Original) A container assembly according to claim 1 in which the locking member hinges upwardly from the unlocked to the locked position.

3. (Previously Presented) A container assembly according to claim 2 wherein the cover has a closing surface for closing the opening and the or each locking member hinges onto the closing surface of the cover.

4. (Previously Presented) A container assembly according to claim 3 in which the at least one locking member hinges so as to dispose their free ends within the area defined by the rim.

5. (Previously Presented) A container assembly according to claim 4 in which the free ends of the at least one locking member lie substantially flush with the

upper or outer surface of the cover, or at least disposed below the level of the rim or inside the outer surface of the cover.

6. (Currently Amended) A container assembly comprising a paint container and a cover, wherein the container has a peripheral wall defining a rim enclosing an opening at one end thereof, and wherein the cover is provided for releasably closing the opening, the assembly being provided with at least one locking member that is hingeable between an unlocked position and a locked position, the at least one locking member having a locking member engagement feature which engages with a corresponding engagement feature on the cover, the container, or both of the assembly in the locked position to lock the cover to the container, in which the locking member hinges upwardly from the unlocked to the locked position.

7. (Currently Amended) A container assembly according to ~~anyone of~~ claim 2 in which the cover has a closing surface for closing the opening of the container, and a skirt depending from the closing surface, the at least one locking member being hingeably connected to the skirt, preferably the or each locking member is integrally formed with the skirt, more preferably the or each locking member is integrally formed with the skirt by a live hinge.

8. (Previously Presented) A container assembly according to claim 7 in which the at least one locking member is hinged to the skirt at a lower free edge of the skirt.

9. (Previously Presented) A container assembly according to claim 1 in which the at least one locking member is hingeably connected to the container.

10. (Original) A container assembly according to claim 1 in which the locking member is hingeably connected to the cover at a position which is radially inward of the rim.

11. (Previously Presented) A container assembly according to claim 10 in which the at least one locking member is integrally formed with the cover.

12. (Previously Presented) A container assembly according to claim 10 in which the at least one locking member hinges downwardly from the unlocked to the locked position.

13. (Previously Presented) A container assembly according to claim 1 in which the locking member locks onto the container rim directly by engaging with the container rim.

14. (Previously Presented) A container assembly according to claim 1 in which the cover includes a sealing surface which engages with an inside surface of the peripheral wall of the container to form a seal therebetween.

15. (Previously Presented) A container assembly according to claim 1 in which the at least one locking member is arranged to snap-fit onto the assembly cover or the container.

16. (Previously Presented) A container assembly according to claim 1 in which the at least one locking member is arranged to snap-fit over a rim of the container or over a rim of the cover.

17. (Previously Presented) A container assembly according to claim 7 in which a window is formed in a or the skirt at the peripheral location of the at least one locking member whereby the at least one locking member fits into the window in the locked position.

18. (Previously Presented) A container assembly according to claim 17 in which the locking member fits into the window such that it lies substantially flush with the outer peripheral surface of the skirt in the locked position.

19. (Previously Presented) A container assembly according to claim 1 in which the at least one locking member includes an engagement feature which engages over a rim of the cover and/or the rim of the container in the locked position.

20. (Original) A container assembly according to claim 19 in which the rim of the cover is arranged to lie within the peripheral wall of the container adjacent the rim of the container.

21. (Original) A container assembly according to claim 20 in which the thickness of the rim of the cover is locally increased in the region of the or each locking member.

22. (Previously Presented) A container assembly according to claim 1 comprising two or more of said locking members.

23. (Previously Presented) A container assembly according to claim 1 in which the container and the cover are of generally circular configuration.

24. (Previously Presented) A container assembly according to claim 1 in which the surface of the cover for closing the opening of the container comprises a channel that is arranged to receive the rim of the container.

25. (Original) A container assembly according to claim 24 in which the or each locking member lies substantially flush with the outer surface of the channel when in the locked position.

26. (Previously Presented) A container assembly according to claim 1 in which the locking member includes an aperture, and an edge of the aperture defines the engagement feature at least one of the or each locking member.

27. (Previously Presented) A container assembly according to claim 1 in which the at least one locking member is provided with at least the locking member engagement feature, and the cover is provided with at least one corresponding cover engagement feature, such that the corresponding at least one engagement features engage with each other when the locking member is in the locked position.

28. (Previously Presented) A container assembly according to claim 1 in which the at least one locking member is provided with an engagement feature at a position radially inward of the rim, for engagement with an inside surface of the container peripheral wall, or an inside surface of a rim of the cover in the locked position.

29. (Previously Presented) A container assembly according to claim 1 wherein the cover has a closing surface for closing the opening and the surface of the cover for closing the container lies substantially flush with the top of the at least one locking member when in the locked position.

30. (Previously Presented) A container assembly according to claim 7 in which the at least one engagement feature of the container is provided on the peripheral wall of the container in the form of an outwardly directed projection extending at least partially around the outer surface of the peripheral wall adjacent the opening, and the corresponding engagement feature on the at least one locking member is an inwardly directed projection provided on the skirt for cooperating with the outwardly directed projection of the container, the projections engaging with each other in the locked position.

31. (Previously Presented) A container assembly according to claim 1 in which the cover, the container, or both is plastic.

32. (Cancelled).

33. (Previously Presented) A container assembly according to claim 1 in which the engagement features comprise inwardly or outwardly directed projections.

34. (Currently Amended) Closure arrangement for a paint container, wherein the container has a peripheral wall defining a rim enclosing an opening at one end thereof, the peripheral wall having at least one outwardly-directed projection extending at least partially around the outer surface of the wall adjacent the opening, and wherein a cover is provided for releasably closing the opening, the cover having a surface for closing the opening of the container and a skirt depending therefrom to enclose the projection of the container, the skirt being provided with at least one hinged locking member that has (a) an inwardly-directed projection for co-operating with the outwardly-directed projection of the container, and (b) a lip for passing over the rim of the container at the opening thereof and engaging onto the cover, thereby to lock the cover to the container, with the respective inwardly-and outwardly-directed projections engaging with each other.

35-36. (Cancelled).

37. (Previously Presented) A container assembly according to claim 3 in which the at least one locking member hinges so as to dispose their free ends within the area defined by the rim.

38. (Previously Presented) A container assembly according to claim 6 in which the cover has a closing surface for closing the opening of the container, and a skirt depending from the closing surface, the at least one locking member being hingeably connected to the skirt.

39 (Previously Presented) A container assembly according to claim 38 wherein each locking member is selected from locking members that are integrally formed with the skirt, or locking members integrally formed with the skirt by a live hinge.

40. (Previously Presented) A container assembly according to claim 6 in which the at least one locking member is hingeably connected to the container.

41. (Previously Presented) A container assembly according to claim 6 in which the locking member is hingeably connected to the cover at a position which is radially inward of the rim.

42. (Previously Presented) A container assembly according to claim 41 in which the at least one locking member is integrally formed with the or each locking member integrally formed with the cover by a live hinge.

43. (Previously Presented) A container assembly according to claim 6 in which the locking member locks onto the container rim directly by engaging with the container rim.

44. (Previously Presented) A container assembly according claim 6 in which the cover includes a sealing surface which engages with an inside surface of the peripheral wall of the container to form a seal therebetween.

45. (Previously Presented) A container assembly according to claim 6 in which the at least one locking member is arranged to snap-fit onto the assembly cover or the container or both.

46. (Previously Presented) A container assembly according to claim 6 in which the at least one locking member includes an engagement feature which engages over a rim of the cover, the rim of the container or both in the locked position.

47. (Previously Presented) A container assembly according to claim 6 comprising three of said locking members.

48. (Previously Presented) A container assembly according to claim 6 in which the surface of the cover for closing the opening of the container comprises a channel that is arranged to receive the rim of the container.

49. (Previously Presented) A container assembly according to claim 6 in which the cover, the container, or both is plastic comprised of molded plastic or injection molded plastic.